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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/888,679	06/25/2001	Jeffrey R. Shutic	11694/04112	9972

27483 7590 05/03/2007
CALFEE, HALTER & GRISWOLD, LLP
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CLEVELAND, OH 44114

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, DINH Q

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3752

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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05/03/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/888,679	SHUTIC ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Dinh Q. Nguyen	3752	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 April 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,5-14,28,30-36,38-43,48-51 and 65 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,5,7-12,14,28,30-36,38,39,42,43,48-51 and 65 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 6,13,40 and 41 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 48-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Drummond.

Drummond discloses a method for quick color change in a powder spraying system comprising steps of: continuously drawing powder overspray 124 from a spray booth 108 by a cyclone 170, conveying powder from the cyclone 170 by applying a vacuum by motor 244 to a vacuum line 256/194/202 by connecting at a first end (adjacent to end 178) to a powder outlet 198 of cyclone 170 to a second end (adjacent 212) of a vacuum receiver 202 that houses a filter 210 (see figure 1).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 10-12, 14, 28, 30, 31, 38, 39, 42, 43, 51 and 65 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Trevisan in view of Drummond.

Art Unit: 3752

Trevisan teaches all the limitations of the claims except for a vacuum receiver that houses a filter. However, Drummond discloses a powder spraying system with a vacuum receiver 202 that houses a filter 210 (see figure 1). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to have provided the device of Trevisan with a vacuum receiver that houses a filter as suggested by Drummond. Doing so would provide a way to reclaim overpaying particles (see column 2, lines 20+).

With respect to claim 51, at the time the invention was made, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to a person of ordinary skill in the art to provide the method of Drummond with the steps of periodically discharging powder from the vacuum receiver.

5. Claims 9, 32-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Trevisan in view of Drummond as applied to claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 10-12, 14, 28, 30, 31, 38, 39, 42, 43, 51 and 65 above, and further in view of Shaneyfelt.

Trevisan in view of Drummond teach all the limitations of the claims except for a spray booth with a rotatable floor. However, Shaneyfelt discloses a spray booth 20 with a rotatable floor. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to have provided the spray booth of Trevisan and Drummond with a rotatable floor as suggested by Shaneyfelt. Doing so would provide a versatile powder coating device (see column 1, lines 63+).

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 6, 13, 40, and 41 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments filed 3/12/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

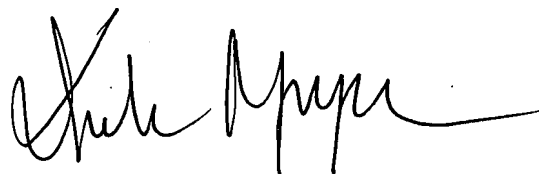
8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 2, 5, 7-12, 14, 28, 29-36, 38, 39, 42, 73, 48-51, and 65 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dinh Q. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-4907. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 6:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kevin Shaver can be reached on 571-272-4720. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dinh Q. Nguyen', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dinh Q. Nguyen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3752

dqn